

Veterans Emergency Housing

Herrick Archives Number H 458

A. IDENTIFICATION &. LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Never officially named by Board of Trustees action.

1.2 Alternate names noted:

Buckeye Village
G. I. Village
The Village
River Road Dorms
River Road Housing
River Road Emergency Housing
Lane Avenue Housing Project
Emergency Housing

2. Location

2.1 See table (3. 1. 8) for street addresses of individual buildings.

2.2 All located west of Olentangy River Road and north of West Lane Avenue. See map on next page.

2.3 The map shows the following 1973 features

2.3.1 Perimeter streets—Lane Avenue, Olentangy River Road, Ackerman Road, and the Defiance Drive to the Left of the buildings shown.

2.3.2 Present buildings with encircled numbers. See Appendix A for identification.

2.4 The map shows the following features of the Veterans Emergency Housing project:

2.4.1 All streets except those Listed in 2.3.1 above. The Defiance Drive within the housing area was a part of the Veterans Emergency Housing project.

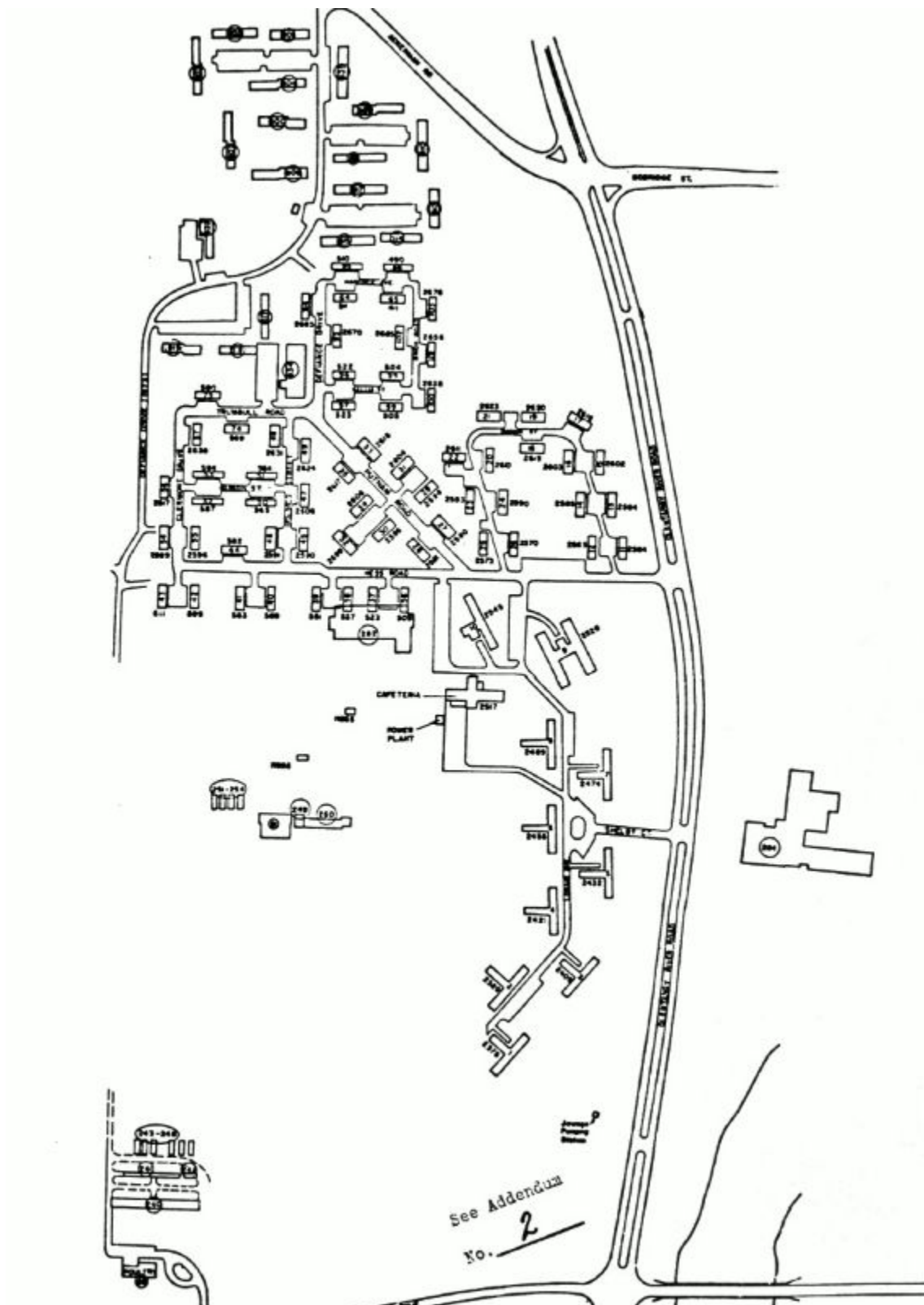
2.4.2 All buildings not accompanied by encircled numbers. The open numbers within the building outlines are building numbers assigned by the University Architect. See Table 3.1.8 for identification.

The open numbers outside the building outlines are street addresses. (Note: See 3.1.9 for alternate building numbers used in many records.)

2.4.3 The following changes of street names were made during construction of the project:

- Holmes was called Defiance on early drawings.

- On early drawings Clermont extended farther north and then turned eastward to include Hancock



3. General Description

3.1 This Project included 75 buildings as follows:

3.1.1 Eight one-story frame barracks buildings for single students. These were all on Lorain Avenue.

3.1.2 Sixteen two-story frame barracks buildings and two two-story frame barracks buildings for single students on Hardin Street.

3.1.3 A one-story frame cafeteria at 2517 North Lorain Avenue.

3.1.4 A one-story stucco power plant for the cafeteria.

3.1.5 Forty-seven two-story frame buildings for married students.

3.1.6 The power plant for the cafeteria was an existing farm building converted for power plant use. Details of construction of the power plant are not wholly clear. The basement walls were concrete and the upper walls were apparently stucco on some kind of tile.

All other buildings in the project were frame structures dismantled and moved from various World War II military establishments and re-erected on OSU property for veterans housing.

The eight T-shaped buildings came from Shelby, Ohio; the two H buildings from Point Pleasant, West Virginia; the cafeteria from the Naval Munitions Plant near Chillicothe; and the remainder of buildings from Camp Davis, North Carolina.

See Addendum No. 1

3.1. 7 The two-story frame community building at the corner of Defiance ^and Trumbull was also a part of Buckeye Village, but it was erected under the Veterans Educational Facilities No. III project, rather than as a part of the Veterans Emergency Housing. This building is still in use today. See report for Building 834.

3.1.8 Buildings in Veterans Emergency Housing Projects:

<u>Bldg. No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>No. Stories</u>	<u>Address</u>
1	T	1	2376 Lorain
2	T	1	2389 Lorain
3	T	1	2402 Lorain
4	T	1	2421 Lorain
5	T	1	2432 Lorain
6	T	1	2455 Lorain
7	T	1	2474 Lorain
8	T	1	2499 Lorain
9	H	2	2520 Hardin
10	H	2	2545 Hardin
11	A	2	2564 Hardin
12	A	2	2565 Hardin
13	A	2	2584 Hardin

14	A	2	2585 Hardin
15	A	2	2602 Hardin
16	A	2	2603 Hardin
17	A	2	2616 Hardin
18	A	2	2619 Hardin
19	A	2	2620 Hardin
20	A	2	2610 Hardin
21	A	2	2623 Hardin
22	A	2	2611 Hardin
23	A	2	2593 Hardin
24	A	2	2590 Hardin
25	A	2	2573 Hardin
26	A	2	2570 Hardin
27	E	2	2580 Putnam
28	E	2	2581 Putnam
29	E	2	2594 Putnam
30	E	2	2595 Putnam
31	E	2	2604 Putnam
32	C	2	2599 Putnam
33	E	2	2616 Putnam
34	E	2	2605 Putnam
35	E	2	2617 Putnam
36	C	2	509 Hess
37	C	2	523 Hess
38	C	2	537 Hess
39	C	2	551 Hess
40	C	2	569 Hess
41	C	2	583 Hess
42	C	2	599 Hess
43	C	2	611 Hess

44	D	2	582 Hess
45	E	2	2590 Holmes
46	C	2	2591 Holmes
47	E	2	2606 Holmes
48	C	2	2631 Holmes
49	E	2	2624 Holmes
50	G	2	565 Huron
51	G	2	564 Huron
52	G	2	587 Huron
53	G	2	584 Huron
54	C	2	2599 Clermont
55	C	2	2596 Clermont
56	C	2	2617 CLermont
57	C	2	2638 Clermont
64	C	2	511 Hancock
65	C	2	491 Hancock
66	G	2	490 Hancock
74	E	2	589 Trumbull
75	E	2	580 Trumbull
93	C	2	2670 Defiance
94	E	2	2685 Defiance
95	G	2	510 Hancock
96	C	2	522 Gallia
97	C	2	523 Gallia
98	C	2	504 Gallia
99	C	2	505 Gallia
100	E	2	2638 Knox
101	E	2	2656 Knox
102	C	2	2665 Knox
103	E	1	2676 Knox

Cafeteria	-	1	2517 Lorain
Power Plant	-	1	-----

See Addendum No. 3

Notes on Table:

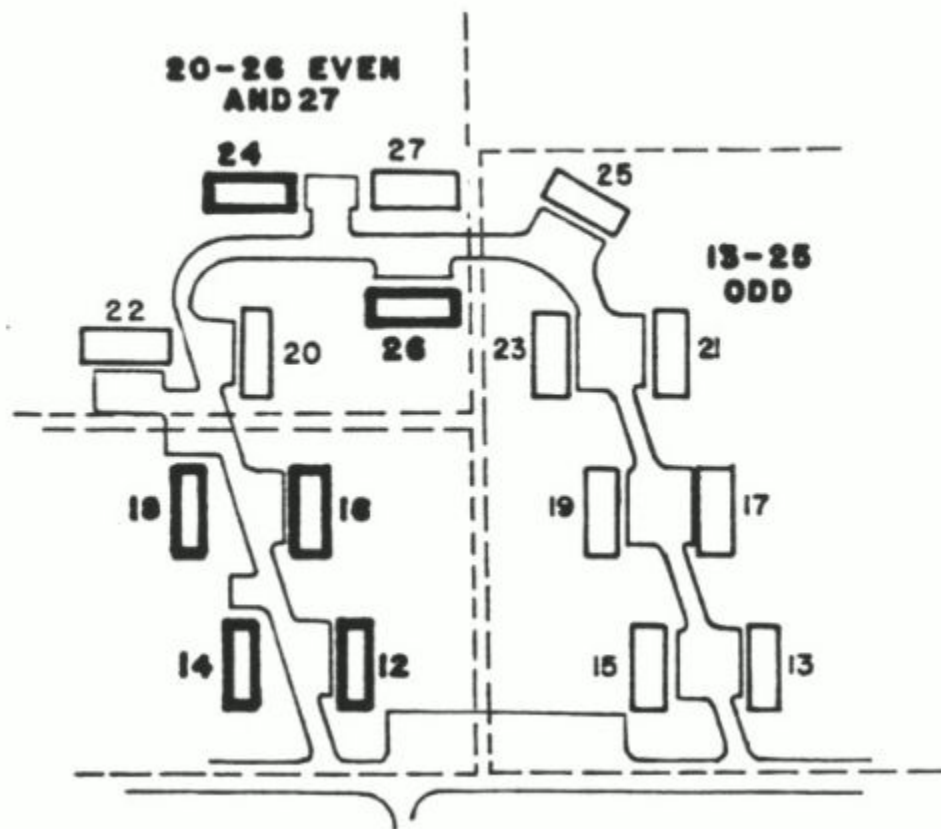
- a. Each type code refers to a specific floor plan and building exterior. Later in this report, reference will be made to photographs of each building type.
- b. Buildings 64, 65, and 66 were originally numbered 2588, 2581, and 2696 Clermont. They were changed to 511, 491, and 490 Hancock on September 18, 1947.
- c. Building 95 was originally numbered 2697 Clermont. Changed to 510 Hancock on September 18, 1947.

3.1.9 The building numbers shown on the map and in the table are from maps in the University Architect's files, and they were probably used only during construction.

The people responsible for operation of the housing project did not use any numbers except for buildings on Lorain and Hardin, and in these two instances they did not follow the architect's numbering scheme except for Buildings 1 to 8, inclusive. Building 9 was split into Buildings 9 and 10 by the housing people and Building 10 became Building 11.

On Hardin Street the new numbers departed completely from those used by the University Architect. The new numbers were used exclusively by the housing staff and later by the newly-established Office of Campus Planning. Campus Planning records of assignment and all references to demolition in Cabinet minutes and most references in Board of Trustees minutes use the new numbers.

Efforts to identify all buildings on Hardin by the new numbers have been only partially successful. Such information as has been definitely established is shown in bold-face in the sketch below. Light-face numbers are thought to be correct, but no definite proof has been established.



B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION

1. General

1.1 All buildings in the project were constructed by an agency of the federal government, according to plot plans prepared by Howard Dwight Smith, University Architect.

The Lantern on October 20, 1947 reported that John A. Johnson and Co. of Brooklyn erected 46 of the 48 buildings already completed and had been awarded the contract for the remaining buildings in Project III. The two buildings not constructed by Johnson were not identified.

At the time of this article, 48 residential buildings had been erected, and in addition the cafeteria and the power plant were completed.

Mr. Milton Overholt, manager of Buckeye Village, recalls no second contractor on the project, and believes that Johnson probably erected all of the buildings.

No effort has been made to resolve this question, and no search has been made to determine contractors' names. However, the only name noted by the author in the files of the University Architect is John A. Johnson and Sons.

1.2 The University installed the necessary utility lines; constructed the roads, parking lots, and sidewalks; and did other necessary site work.

1.3 The work was done in three sections designated as Parts I, II, and III or Projects I, II, and III, as follows:

Project I -- The 10 dormitories, the cafeteria, and the cafeteria power plant on Lorain Avenue.

Project II -- The 16 dormitory buildings on Hardin Street.

Project III -- All of the remaining buildings.

1.4 After considerable debate extending from September 1945 to February 1946, the Board of Trustees finally decided to apply for allocation of buildings to the University by the Federal Public Housing Authority.

2. Part I

2.1 The Board of Trustees approved the site preparation plan for the first 10 dormitory buildings (Project I) on March 25, 1946.

2.2 Records in the University Architect's office indicate that site preparation contracts were dated May 14, 1946 and May 23, 1946 and give May 27, 1948 as the date of the last final estimate. The actual chronology is more complicated, but details will not be given in this report.

University Architect's records indicate the following contractors for Part I:

Sewage, roads, and grading: General Construction Co.

Electric transmission system: Electric Power Equipment Co.

Water supply system: H. E. Miller

2.3 The buildings were erected by John A. Johnson and Sons of New York under contract with the Federal Housing Authority (A).

2.4 The Lantern on May 21, 1946 reported that construction had started on the day before by removal of sod from the site.

3. Part II

3.1 The Board of Trustees approved the site preparation plans on July 22, 1946.

3.2 Records in the University Architect's office indicate that bids on Part II were taken on August 14, 1946, contracts were signed September 6, 1946 and October 21, 1946, and the last final estimate was dated May 27, 1948.

University Architect's records list the following contractors for Part II:

Sewerage system: General Construction Co.

Electrical: Electric Power Equipment Co.

Road and grading: George Sheaf & Co.

Water supply: H. E. Miller

4. Part III

4.1 The Board of Trustees approved the site preparation plans on July 22, 1946.

4.2 Records in the University Architect's office indicate that bids on Part III were taken September 19, 1946, and contracts were dated October 4, 1946.

University Architect's records list the following contractors for Part III:

Water Supply, sewerage system, roads, grading and fuel and gas supply: Haddad Construction Co.

Electric transmission system: Electric Power Equipment Co.

5. Completion and Occupancy

5.1 The first eight buildings were ready for occupancy on January 1, 1947, according to a report by Mr. Overholt filed in the University Archives with the February 20, 1952 minutes of the Housing Council. The first occupants were 480 single men (L 1/3/47). The cafeteria was put into use with the arrival of the first students.

See Addendum No. 5

5.2 The remainder of Project I and all of Project II were completed for use in the Autumn of 1947, according to Mr. Overholt's report cited above.

5.3 The same report indicates that the first 22 buildings (152 units) of Project III were ready by August 1947 and the remainder by July 1948.

A photograph in the Columbus Sunday Dispatch Magazine for January 13, 1972 indicates that the first 22 Project III buildings to be opened were those with the following numbers: 32; 36-43, inclusive; 44-47, inclusive; 50-56, inclusive; 66; and 95.

C. COST

The cost to the University was approximately \$400,000 (B).

D. USE OF BUILDINGS

1. The Project I and II dormitory buildings were used to house single students; Project III buildings were all used to house married students.

2. The Project II buildings, which were intended to house single students were never fully used for that purpose. According to Mr. Overholt's report to the Housing Council on February 20, 1952, eight of them were used as dormitories during 1947-48, and none was used for housing thereafter.

3. Project I and II buildings were used for a variety of other purposes when not used for housing. Among these other uses were:

3.1 Office of Personnel Research Board (Prof. Shartle).

3.2 Research Foundation Mapping and Charting project (Prof. Harding),

3.3 Offices of U.S. Geological Survey and Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

3.4 Offices and storage for the River Road Housing Project.

3.5 Offices for Bureau of Special and Adult Education.

3.6 Offices for Fine Arts.

3.7 Construction office for University Architect.

3.8 Storage for many agencies, including College of Arts and Sciences, Dean of Men, Physical Plant, Purchasing, Military Science, Stores and Receiving, Optometry, University Hospital, WOSU-TV, Surgery, Photography, and Chemistry.

E. DEMOLITION

1. Project I

1.1 All dormitory use was discontinued at the end of the Spring Quarter in 1959 (H).

1.2 The demolition of Building 7 was approved by the Board of Trustees on January 12, 1959.

1.3 The demolition of Buildings 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 was approved by the Board of Trustees on April 10, 1959.

1.4 The demolition of Building 9 (new 9 and 10) was approved by the Board of Trustees on March 11, 1960.

1.5 The demolition of Building 10 (new 11) was approved by the Board of Trustees on July 14, 1961. The Office of Campus Planning assigned the building for demolition on September 25, 1961 (P).

1.6 The demolition of the cafeteria, the power plant, and a shed southeast of the cafeteria was approved by the Board of Trustees on June 14, 1963, and these buildings were assigned ten days later by the Office of Campus Planning to the Office of Business and Finance for demolition (P). However, a memorandum in the files of the Office of Campus Planning indicates that the power plant was still standing on February 17, 1964.

See Addendum No. 1

2. Project II

2.1 The Board of Trustees on April 10, 1959 approved the demolition of "Building Numbers 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, and 25 on East Hardin Road." These are clearly the new numbers.

2.2 The Board of Trustees on July 14, 1965 approved the demolition of Buildings 20, 22, 24, 26, and 27. These are clearly the new numbers.

2.3 The Board of Trustees on February 15, 1963 approved the demolition of the buildings at 2573, 2590, and 2593 West Hardin, and 14 months later (April 17, 1964) it approved the demolition of the building at 2570 West Hardin. These four buildings were all assigned to the Office of Business and Finance on March 9, 1964 for demolition. These were the last four buildings on Hardin.

See Addendum No. 4

3. Project III

3.1 On April 8, 1960 the Board of Trustees approved the demolition of 582 Hess (Bldg. 44); all buildings on Clermont, Holmes, Hurrion, Trumbull, and Putnam; 505 Gallia (Bldg. 99); and 2638 Knox (Bldg. 100). The contract for demolition was awarded by the Board of Trustees on

September 9, 1960.

At the October 10, 1960 meeting, the Board of Trustees withdrew 582 Hess (Bldg. 44) from the list of buildings to be demolished. The contractor for Married Student Housing Project No. 2 was allowed to use this building as a field office and demolish it at the end of his project.

3.2 On June 8, 1961 the Board of Trustees approved the demolition of the remaining three buildings on Knox; all buildings on Hancock and Defiance and the remaining three buildings on Gallia. This left only the 8 buildings on the south side of Hess.

3.3 On December 12, 1961 the Board of Trustees approved the demolition of the buildings at 509, 523, and 537 Hess.

3.4 On July 13, 1962 the Board of Trustees approved the demolition of the remaining five buildings on Hess. This completed the demolition of Buckeye Village, with the exception of the Community building (Bldg. 834) which still stands, and possibly of 582 Hess, which had been turned over to the contractor for Married Student Housing Project No. 2.

F. Photographs

1. In Photoarchives:

X 13926--Building 1--Type T

X 13925--Types T and H on Lorain

X 13924--Shows Type A on Hardin

X 13922--Shows Type C on south side of Hess

X 13923--Same

X 13927--Cafeteria

X 13928--Cafeteria

2. Other

Columbus Sunday Dispatch Magazine, January 8, 1952, p. 8. An aerial view from the southeast showing the T buildings, the H buildings, the cafeteria, the shed southeast of the cafeteria, the power plant, and the C buildings along the south side of Hess, which is the street running diagonally from the upper left hand corner of the picture to the right hand margin.

Also shown near the right margin are the 16 A buildings on Hardin, the 6 G buildings on Huron and the north side of Hancock, the two E buildings on the east side of Holmes, a few other C buildings in the Holmes-Hess-Clermont area, and the community building (Bldg. 834). The D building at 582 Heas is shown, partly concealed by a tree.

John H. Herrick
December 18, 1973

ADDENDUM NO. 1

The Power Plant building was constructed as a poultry building (H 315--Farm Flock House No. 1) in 1925. See report H 315/22. It was partially destroyed by fire on September 19, 1946 (M 38: 27--Oct 46), and later restored for use for the Veterans Emergency Housing project.

Air View 385 (May 1965) shows the building still standing, but it is missing in Air View 404 taken four months later (September 1965). This indicates demolition between May and September 1965, but it was not assigned for demolition by the Office of Campus Planning until December 20, 1965. It has not been determined whether the assignment for demolition was made after the fact or the date assigned to Air View 404 is erroneous.

John H. Herrick
December 12, 1974

ADDENDUM NO. 2

A March 1945 drawing of the "Emergency Housing Sewage Disposal Pipe Line" depicts the "Pump House" (designated "sewage pumping station" on map in this report) as an 8' x 13' concrete building with asbestos shingles on a pitched roof and wood siding on the gable ends. The building was set into a slope. The peak of the roof was approximately 12' above grade on the east end and 8'9" on the west end. A door 30' wide was in the center of the east end.

John H. Herrick
September 3, 1975

ADDENDUM NO. 3

For address of power plant, see H 315.

John H. Herrick
February 18, 1976

ADDENDUM NO. 4

The Board of Trustees on April 17, 1964 approved the demolition of Building 12 at 2570 Hardin Road.

John H. Herrick
August 5, 1977

ADDENDUM NO. 5

The Monthly in July 1947 (38:6) reported that the cafeteria opened on July 10, 1947.

John H. Herrick
June 8, 1978

ADDENDUM NO. 6

These buildings, except the power plant and pumping station, were war surplus buildings erected on the campus as temporary buildings after World War II.

John H. Herrick
July 25, 1978

ADDENDUM NO. 7

Buildings 12, 14, 16 and 18 on Hardin Road appear on Sheet 33 of the book of campus maps in the University Archives.

John H. Herrick
October 26, 1979